

# Reading at home is fun!

Becoming a confident reader can open up a whole new world to your child. Reading should always be fun.



Here are some more activities and ideas that parents can use to develop their child's reading. The ideas below are based around a lovely story, *Good Fun Farm* by Ian Whybrow.

## What's the story about?

At Good Fun Farm, the animals are fed up. The sign says Good Fun Farm, but they never have any fun. Then the smallest duckling makes an interesting discovery and finds a football. Soon everyone on the farm is having fun.



## Reading together

- Look at the cover together and talk about the title and the picture.
- Look at the pictures and see if your child can predict what the story will be about.
- Encourage your child to read the story to you and think about the meaning.
- Check that your child can find and read the following interest words in the story: **animals, neigh(ed), replied, moaned, thought, noise, bounced, brayed, woolly, dribblers**. Make it a game!
- Encourage him or her to vary expression when reading aloud, using the punctuation as a guide.
- Look at pages 22–23 and discuss the picture of the football match together.
- *Good Fun Farm* is about the importance of working together to achieve something positive; in this case a fun game that everyone can enjoy. Ask your child who he or she thinks is the cleverest character in the story. Is it the farmer? Or the smallest duckling? Ask him or her why he or she thinks this.

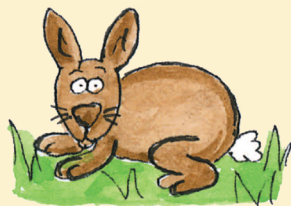
## Speaking together

These are some more animals that have joined the football game.

Read what they say and think of a word to replace 'said' each time.



"I like sliding!" said the snake.



"I like hopping!" said the rabbit.



"I like playing on the wing!" said the bird.

## Playing together

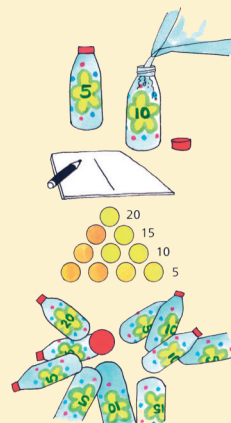
Help your child to make his or her own skittles and encourage him or her to read the instructions. Discuss what he or she is doing and how he or she is making the skittles.

You will need:

- 10 empty plastic bottles with lids
- Paints
- Water
- Ball
- Paper and pens



1. Peel off any labels on your bottles, wash them and allow them to dry.
2. Paint the bottles.
3. When you have finished, stand the bottles upside down to dry.
4. On four of the bottles, write the number 5. On three of the bottles, write the number 10. On two of the bottles, write the number 15. On the last bottle, write the number 20. These will be the score gained if you knock the bottle over.
5. Fill the bottles with water to make them heavier. Remember to put the lid back on!
6. Use a piece of paper for a scoreboard.
7. Arrange the skittles in the shape of a triangle.
8. Take turns to see how many you can knock down by rolling a ball at them. For each bottle that you knock down, look at the number and add up the total.
9. Repeat step 8 five times each. The winner is the person who scores the most points!



Want to print this as an activity sheet for your children to take home? Download it at [www.collinsbigcat.com](http://www.collinsbigcat.com)

*Good Fun Farm* is part of the Collins Big Cat series. To find out more download a full catalogue and FREE Collins Big Cat topics chart at [www.collinsbigcat.com](http://www.collinsbigcat.com)